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	Page 1		
1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
2	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK		
3	x		
4	FEDERAL TRADE COMISSION, :		
5	Plaintiff, :		
6	v. : Case No.		
7	TAPESTRY, INC., and : 1:24-cv-03109-JLR		
8	CAPRI HOLDINGS LIMITED, :		
9	Defendants. :		
10	x		
	Monday, July 22, 2024		
11			
12			
13	Confidential		
14	Subject to Protective Order		
15			
16	Remote Videotaped Deposition of SLOAN TICHNER,		
17	called for oral examination by counsel for the		
18	Plaintiffs, pursuant to notice, before Christina S.		
19	Hotsko, RPR, CRR, CA CSR, of Veritext Legal		
20	Solutions, a Notary Public in and for the District		
21	of Columbia, beginning at 9:30 a.m., when were		
22	present on behalf of the respective parties:		
	Job No. CS6786201		

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Page 2	Page 4
1 APPEARANCES (Via Zoom) 2 On behalf of Plaintiff:	1 CONTENTS
PETER COLWELL, ESQUIRE	2
3 BLAKE RISENMAY, ESQUIRE	3 EXAMINATION BY: PAGE
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7 On behalf of Steve Madden and the Witness:	8 Counsel for Plaintiff 99
MARK C. GRUNDVIG, ESQUIRE	9
8 JACQUELINE BEVERIDGE, ESQUIRE	10
Foley & Lardner, LLP	
9 Washington Harbour	
3000 K Street, Northwest, Suite 600 10 Washington, D.C. 20007	12 Exhibit PX3025 Excel Spreadsheet, Steve Madden 43
(202) 672-5300	Wholesale and Retail Sales,
11 mark.grundvig@foley.com	January 2019 through April 2024
12	
On behalf of Capri Holdings:	14 Exhibit DX707 SEC Form 10-K 60
13 CEDRIC LEWIS, ESQUIRE	15 Exhibit DX708 Stella McCartney v. Steve Madden 96
Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz, LLP	Complaint
14 51 W 52nd Street, Suite 29	16
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15 (212) 403-1000	Exhibit DX709 Valentino v. Steve Madden First 96
cmlewis@wlrk.com	17 Amended Complaint
16	18 Exhibit DX710 Balenciaga Complaint 97
17	19
18	
19 20	20
21	* (Exhibits attached to transcript.)
22	22
2 On behalf of Tapestry, Inc.: LAWRENCE E. BUTERMAN, ESQUIRE 3 Latham & Watkins LLP 1271 Avenue Of The Americas 4 New York, New York 10020 (212) 906-1200 5 lawrence.buterman@lw.com 6 KIMON KIMBALL TRIANTAFYLLOU, ESQUIRE NIKKI BOURASSA, ESQUIRE 7 Latham & Watkins LLP 555 11th Street, Northwest 8 Washington, D.C. 20004 (202) 637-2200 9 kimon.triantafyllou@lw.com 10 Also Present: 11 Ellen Hebert, Video Technician Lisa Keith, Steve Madden General Counsel 12 Beata Safari, Steve Madden Privacy Counsel Alexander Aufrichtig, Steve Madden Associate Counsel 13 14 15 16 17	1 PROCEEDINGS 2 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Good morning. We a 3 going on the record. The time is 9:30 a.m. 4 Eastern. Today's date is July 22nd, 2024. 5 Please note that this deposition is being 6 conducted virtually. Quality of recording depends 7 on quality of camera and internet connection of 8 participants. What is seen on heard on screen is 9 what will be recorded. 10 Audio and video recording will continue 11 to take place unless all parties agree to go off 12 the record. 13 This is media unit number 1 of the 14 30(b)(6) video-recorded deposition of 15 Steve Madden. The witness' name is Sloan Tichner. 16 This is taken by counsel for the 17 plaintiff in the matter of Federal Trade 18 Commission v. Tapestry, Inc., and Capri Holdings 19 Limited, filed in the United States District Court
18 19	20 for the Southern District of New York, case number
17	
20	
	21 1:24-cv-03109-JLR. 22 This deposition is being conducted

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1	remotely using virtual technology.	1	

- 2 My name is Ellen Hebert representing
- 3 Veritext. I am the videographer. The court
- 4 reporter is Christina Hotsko from Veritext.
- 5 If there are any objections to
- 6 proceeding, please state them at the time of your
- 7 appearance.
- 8 Counsel and all present will now state
- 9 their appearances and affiliations for the record,
- 10 beginning with the noticing attorney.
- 11 MR. COLWELL: Thank you. My name is
- 12 Peter Colwell. I'm an attorney with the Federal
- 13 Trade Commission. And I'm joined by my colleague
- 14 from the FTC, Blake Risenmay.
- 15 MR. BUTERMAN: Lawrence Buterman from
- 16 Latham & Watkins, LLP, on behalf of Tapestry, Inc.
- 17 I have a couple of colleagues who are also on the
- 18 Zoom, and I'll let them introduce themselves.
- 19 MR. TRIANTAFYLLOU: Good morning. Kimon
- 20 Triantafyllou of Latham & Watkins on behalf of
- 21 Tapestry.
- 22 MS. BOURASSA: Nikki Bourassa from

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- So again, Sloan, if you want to introduce
- 2 yourself, and then we'll go through the others
- 3 that are here present as well.
- 4 MS. TICHNER: I'm Sloan Tichner,
- 5 president of handbags for Steve Madden.
- 6 MS. KEITH: And I'm Lisa Keith. I'm in
- 7 the room too. I'm the general counsel of Steve
- 8 Madden
- 9 MR. GRUNDVIG: And then we have some
- 10 others that are joining through their laptops, so
- 11 if they could introduce themselves, please.
- 12 MS. BEVERIDGE: I'm Jacqueline Beveridge
- 13 of Foley & Lardner. I'm outside counsel on behalf
- 14 of Steve Madden.
- 15 MR. AUFRICHTIG: Alexander Aufrichtig,
- 16 associate counsel for Steve Madden.
- 17 MS. SAFARI: Hi. This is Beata Safari.
- 18 I'm privacy counsel for Steve Madden.
- 19 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Will the court
- 20 reporter please swear in the witness.
- 21
- 22

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- 1 Latham & Watkins on behalf of Tapestry.
- 2 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Will all others please
- 3 identify themselves for the record.
- 4 MR. GRUNDVIG: This is Mark Grundvig from 4
- 5 Foley & Lardner. I am outside counsel for
- 6 Steve Madden. I am sitting with Sloan Tichner,
- 7 who is the corporate representative appearing on
- 8 behalf of Steve Madden for this 30(b)(6)
- 9 deposition. I have some others with me that will
- 10 introduce themselves in a moment, but I also want
- 11 to make clear that Sloan Tichner is appearing
- 12 today pursuant to the subpoena request, and the
- 13 information that she provides we are asserting is
- 14 confidential information and that it should
- 15 receive all the protections that are appropriate
- 16 and due pursuant to the protective order in this
- 17 case.
- And so to the extent any information she
- 19 shares here today, and the parties seek to
- 20 disclose it in further proceedings, we request
- 21 notice and an opportunity to object to any of that
- 22 information being made public in any proceeding.

- Whereupon,
- 2 SLOAN TICHNER,
- 3 being first duly sworn or affirmed to testify to
- 4 the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
- 5 truth, was examined and testified as follows:
- 6 EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFF
- 7 BY MR. COLWELL:
- 8 Q. Good morning, Ms. Tichner.
- 9 A. Good morning.
- 10 Q. Thank you for appearing here today. As I
- 11 mentioned earlier, my name is Peter Colwell. I'm
- 12 an attorney with the Federal Trade Commission.
- 13 Have you ever been deposed or testified
- 14 before?
- 15 A. No, I have not.
- 16 Q. The court reporter is transcribing
- 17 everything we say today. So for the court
- 18 reporter's benefit and to keep the record clear,
- 19 please try to respond to all of my questions
- 20 verbally instead of using gestures, nods of the
- 21 head or the like.
- 22 Does that make sense?

3 (Pages 6 - 9)

Page 9

Page 10 A. Yes.

- Q. Also, please let me know if at any time
- 3 you cannot hear me or see me. Also, let me know
- 4 if you do not understand a question, and I may
- 5 rephrase it or clarify.

1

- From time to time, counsel may object to
- 7 a question. Unless your counsel instructs you to
- 8 not answer a question, you should still please
- 9 answer the question after the objection.
- We will take periodic breaks. But if you 10
- 11 need a break at any time, please let me know and I
- 12 will do my best to accommodate you.
- A. Thank you. 13
- 14 Q. This deposition is being conducted
- 15 remotely, and so we are in different locations.
- 16 Where are you located today, Ms. Tichner?
- 17 A. New York City.
- 18 Q. Other than your counsel, is there anyone
- 19 else in the room with you?
- 20 A. No, there is not.
- 21 Q. Are you aware of anything that would
- 22 affect your ability to give full and truthful

- A. No, I have not. 1
- 2 Q. Moving back to your current position of

Page 12

Page 13

- 3 president of handbags at Steve Madden, what are
- your responsibilities in your current position?
- A. I manage both the sales and the design
- 6 part of our branded handbag lines.
- Q. Do you have any other responsibilities?
- 8 A. Those would be the primary.
- Q. What were your responsibilities as
- 10 vice-president of handbags at Steve Madden?
- A. The responsibilities were much of the
- 12 same, but I had an intermediate report.
- Q. Can you explain what you mean by
- 14 intermediate report?
- 15 A. Sure. Instead of reporting in to the
- 16 president of the company, I reported in to the
- 17 president of handbags, who in turn reported in to
- 18 the president of the company.
- 19 Q. What were your responsibilities in your
- 20 product development role at Steve Madden?
- 21 A. I worked primarily on handbags that were
- 22 designed to match back directly to the bags in our

Page 11

- 1 testimony today?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. I'd like to talk about your current
- 4 position at Steve Madden, Ms. Tichner.
- 5 Can you please tell me what your current
- 6 position is?
- A. Yes. I'm president of handbags.
- 8 Q. And how long have you been president of
- 9 handbags?
- 10 A. About 18 years.
- 11 Q. Have you held any other positions at
- 12 Steve Madden?
- A. Yes. I had a position as vice-president
- 14 of handbags. And I also worked in product
- 15 development.
- Q. Approximately when were you in those 16
- 17 positions?
- 18 A. 2006 to '7, I believe, I was in product
- 19 development. And then I believe vice-presidency 19 handbags?
- 20 through 2008 or 2009.
- 21 Q. Have you held any other positions at
- 22 Steve Madden?

- 1 retail stores.
- Q. Can you explain what you mean by that?
- A. The handbags and the shoes are on the
- 4 same pad in our own retail stores, so we often
- 5 have handbags that might have characteristics more
- 6 closely related to the shoes than we would in,
- 7 let's say, the wholesale piece of the business
- where they are separate.
- Q. Thank you for explaining that for me,
- 11 Moving back to your current role and
- 12 responsibilities, do you have any role in pricing
- 13 of handbags?
- A. Yes. All of the pricing structure, I
- 15 manage sales and design, so sort of at the end.
- 16 That's, like, all funnel in together, so the
- 17 answer would be yes.
- Q. Do you have any role in marketing
- A. Small. Most of our marketing is done
- 21 corporately.
- Q. Do you have any role related to the

4 (Pages 10 - 13)

1

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1 supply chain or production of handbags?

- 2 A. The supply chain and the production piece
- 3 are handled by my counterpart.
- 4 Q. Who is your counterpart?
- 5 A. Jeff Goldstein.
- 6 O. What is his title?
- 7 A. VP of global sourcing.
- 8 Q. For Steve Madden?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. In your current role, do you have any
- 11 role or responsibilities related to analyzing
- 12 competition?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Can you please describe what that role
- 15 is?
- 16 A. I'm actively responsible for always being
- 17 conscious of other brands that are selling
- 18 handbags in the same retailers that I operate in.
- 19 Q. Before joining Steve Madden, did you have
- 20 a job that concerned handbags?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. What job or jobs were those?

Page 15

- 1 A. I worked as an independent salesperson
- 2 for a small designer.
- 3 Q. What designer was that?
- 4 A. Clara Kasavina.
- 5 Q. Approximately when did you have that job?
- 6 A. 2000 through 2005, I believe.
- 7 Q. And what were your responsibilities
- 8 there?
- 9 A. I was an independent sales rep selling to
- 10 specialty stores across the country.
- 11 Q. What are specialty stores?
- 12 A. It would be small independent retailers,
- 13 as opposed to large chains or large department
- 14 stores.
- 15 Q. Could you provide an example?
- 16 A. Sure. Ritz-Carlton gift shops.
- 17 Q. Do you understand that you are testifying
- 18 today, Ms. Tichner, as the corporate designee for
- 19 Steve Madden in response to a subpoena?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. Did you speak to anyone other than your
- 22 counsel about this deposition?

Page 16

- A. One -- the financial -- my financial
- 2 partner, who works for the company.
- 3 Q. What is that person's name?
- 4 A. Dante Gioia.
- 5 Q. What is that person's title?
- 6 A. VP of finance and operations.
- 7 Q. And why did you speak with Mr. Gioia
- 8 about this deposition?
- 9 A. It was in reference to the documents that
- 10 were included in the deposition [sic], the
- 11 financial documents, to review the ones that we
- 12 would be presenting today.
- 13 Q. Did you discuss anything else with
- 14 Mr. Gioia?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. For about how long did you speak with
- 17 Mr. Gioia?
- 18 A. Probably about an hour and a half total.
- 19 Q. Do you recall specifically which document
- 20 or documents you discussed with Mr. Gioia?
- 21 A. Yes. May I look at the list of what you
- 22 would refer to them as? I want to just make sure

Page 17

- 1 I'm calling it the correct document. It's the
- 2 financial sales for wholesale and retail and the
- 3 production data. I have -- I don't know exactly
- 4 what the code number is of your -- on the list of
- 5 documents.
- 6 Q. Unfortunately, I do not have a list that
- 7 I can share with you, but --
- 8 A. Let me see if I can find a reference
- 9 code.
- 10 Q. Was it an Excel document?
- 11 A. Yes. It was an Excel document with a lot
- 12 of tabs with sales data by division.
- 13 Q. Thank you, Ms. Tichner.
- 14 I'd like to talk about Steve Madden's
- 15 business.
- 16 Can you provide a brief description of
- 17 Steve Madden's business?
- 18 A. Sure. We're a fashion-forward lifestyle
- 19 brand that markets footwear, accessories, and
- 20 apparel globally.
- Q. Does Steve Madden sell handbags in the
- 22 United States?

5 (Pages 14 - 17)

CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER July 22, 2024 Page 18 Page 20 1 A. Yes, we do. Q. So a company other than Steve Madden owns 2 Q. How long has Steve Madden sold handbags 2 Anne Klein? 3 in the United States? A. That's correct. A. I'm not exactly sure of the date that the 4 Q. What company owns Anne Klein? 5 line launched. 5 A. I'm just blanking right now. It will Q. Has it been for the duration of your 6 come to me, like, in a minute. 7 tenure at the company? 7 Q. That's okay. A. Yes. 9 Q. What is Steve Madden's primary business? 10 A. A shoe company. 11 Q. I'd like to discuss Steve Madden's 12 handbag brands with you, Ms. Tichner. 13 A. Okay. 14 Q. Does Steve Madden have multiple brands 15 that sell handbags? 16 A. We do. 17 Q. What are Steve Madden's brands that sell 18 handbags in the United States? 19 A. Steve Madden, Betsey Johnson, 20 Love Betsey, Dolce Vita, Anne Klein. 21 Q. Any others? 22 A. No. Page 21 1 Q. Does Steve Madden own all those brands? 2 A. We own all of the brands that I 3 mentioned, except for Anne Klein. We just have 4 the license to distribute handbags under that 5 brand. Q. How does Steve Madden conduct business 7 for brands for which it has a license, like Q. Does Steve Madden sell its handbags in 8 Anne Klein? 8 different sales channels in the United States? 9 A. Can you repeat the question? 9 A. Yes. 10 10 O. What are those sales channels? How does Steve Madden conduct business 11 11 A. Department stores, specialty stores, some 12 for brands for which it has a license to sell 12 chains, off-price retailers, as well as our own 13 products such as Anne Klein? 13 stores. 14 A. The businesses are run the same. The 14 Q. So Steve Madden has its own stores in the 15 United States? 15 difference is in the financial recordings and the A. Yes. 16 profit centers. 16 17 Q. Can you explain those differences 17 O. Are those for the Steve Madden brand? A. Yes. 18 further, please? 18 A. A license -- we have licensing agreements Q. Did you say that Steve Madden sells 20 of where there are fees paid to the parent company 20 handbags through other stores as well?

6 (Pages 18 - 21)

21

22

A. Yes.

Q. Are those wholesale stores?

21 that owns the brand. Those are included in the

22 licensed brand.

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A. Yes. Wholesale accounts.

- 2 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Apologies, Counsel.
- 3 I'm getting some interference. It sounds like
- 4 it's coming from a cell phone. Hard to say where
- 5 it's coming from.
- 6 MR. COLWELL: If we can go off the record
- 7 for a moment.

1

- VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Going off the record.
- 9 The time is 9:58 a.m.
- 10 (Discussion off the record.)
- 11 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Going back on the
- 12 record. The time is 10:00 a.m.
- THE WITNESS: May I amend an answer to 13
- 14 your previously asked question in regard to the
- 15 parent company of the Anne Klein brand?
- 16 BY MR. COLWELL:
- Q. Yes, Ms. Tichner. 17
- 18 A. That's -- WHP-Global is the parent
- 19 company.
- 20 Q. So Steve Madden has a license agreement
- 21 for the Anne Klein brand with that company?
- 22 A. Correct.

- 1 the question, please?
 - Q. Sure. Do Steve Madden handbags have

Page 24

Page 25

- 3 resale value?
- A. I don't know. There are certain handbags
- 5 that may be sold on resale to -- in second-party
- 6 sources, or handbags that have been gently used
- 7 can sometimes be found on secondary sites. But
- 8 that's the extent of my knowledge.
- Q. Does Steve Madden, itself, sell resale
- 10 handbags?
- A. We do not. 11
- 12 Q. Why not?
- MR. BUTERMAN: Objection. Form. 13
- 14 THE WITNESS: We sell new product through
- 15 our own retail distribution sites and new product
- 16 to our wholesale partners.
- 17 BY MR. COLWELL:
- 18 Q. You mentioned that you have
- responsibilities related to pricing for Steve
- 20 Madden's handbags; is that right?
- 21 A. Correct.
- 22 Q. What is the price range for Steve Madden

Page 23

- 1 handbags sold in the United States?
- 2 MR. BUTERMAN: Object to form.
- 3 THE WITNESS: The bulk of the handbags
- 4 suggested retails are a hundred -- about a hundred
- 5 dollars and under.
- 6 BY MR. COLWELL:
- 7 Q. When you say bulk, what do you mean by
- 8 that?
- A. There are styles that might be outliers
- 10 that would have a suggested retail that is higher
- 11 than a hundred dollars.
- Q. How do you determine the prices for Steve
- 13 Madden's handbags?
- 14 MR. BUTERMAN: Object to form.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Well, the consumer sets a
- 16 lot of this groundwork for us, depending on the --
- 17 you know in our tier of distribution. I just work
- 18 within the frame of the divisions to place the
- 19 bags, make sure that we're priced competitively.
- 20 BY MR. COLWELL:
- Q. And what do you mean by priced
- 22 competitively?

Q. Thank you, Ms. Tichner. 16 17 And retail includes what? 18 A. Steve Madden retail stores, as well as

- 19 our dot-com direct-to-consumer business.
- 20 Q. Is there a resale market for Steve Madden
- 21 handbags?
- 22 A. Can you rephrase that question or clarify

7 (Pages 22 - 25)

Pa	age 26

- 1 A. If you would -- if we talk about the
- 2 other brands that sit in our area of distribution,
- 3 we would be priced equivalent or have like or same
- 4 suggested retails for similar brands.
- 5 Q. What is that distribution tier that you
- 6 just mentioned?
- 7 A. Can you rephrase the question?
- 8 Q. Sure. If I heard you correctly,
- 9 Ms. Tichner, you described a tier of distribution
- 10 for Steve Madden handbags.
- 11 I'd like to understand what that is.
- 12 MR. BUTERMAN: Objection.
- 13 THE WITNESS: The segment of business has
- 14 several names. It can be referred to as opening
- 15 price point, moderate, trend, fashion.
- 16 BY MR. COLWELL:
- 17 Q. And Steve Madden's handbags are within
- 18 that opening price point tier that you just
- 19 described?
- 20 MR. BUTERMAN: Objection.
- 21 THE WITNESS: They're in that segment.
- 22

Page 27

- 1 BY MR. COLWELL:
- 2 Q. Are you familiar with any other tiers for
- 3 handbags sold in the United States?
- 4 MR. BUTERMAN: Objection.
- 5 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection to form.
- 6 MR. BUTERMAN: Counsel, please stop
- 7 trying to put the word "tiers" into the witness'
- 8 mouth. She hasn't used it once yet.
- 9 MR. COLWELL: Counsel, I believe the
- 10 witness has used the word "tier."
- 11 BY MR. COLWELL:
- 12 Q. Did I mishear you, Ms. Tichner?
- 13 A. I don't remember if I used the
- 14 word "tier" or "segment." I -- I don't remember.
- 15 Q. Thank you, Ms. Tichner.
- 16 Based on your knowledge and experience in
- 17 the industry, Ms. Tichner, are you familiar with
- 18 any other segments aside from the one you just
- 19 described?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. What are those other segments?
- 22 A. There are a lot. There are -- my

- 1 handbags are about a hundred -- as I said, a
 - 2 hundred dollars and under. There's ranges above
 - 3 and ranges below as well.
 - 4 Q. What are the ranges above?
 - 5 A. Over 150 and up to -- to \$1500 and up.
 - 6 Q. What is the \$1500 and up segment?
 - 7 A. Luxury designer.
 - 8 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection to form.
 - 9 BY MR. COLWELL:
 - 10 Q. What brands are in the luxury designer
 - 11 segment?
 - 12 A. Gucci, LV, Prada.
 - 13 Q. You mentioned another segment, and I
 - 14 believe you said over \$150; is that right?
 - 15 A. I was just referring to price points that
 - 16 would cover bags that were above sort of the
 - 17 highest price point at Steve Madden.
 - 18 Q. Thank you, Ms. Tichner.
 - 19 Are you familiar with any segments
 - 20 between opening price point and designer luxury?
 - 21 A. Yes. There are many: designer, emerging
 - 22 designer, contemporary, advanced contemporary.
 - - rage 25

Page 28

- 1 Q. Are you familiar with the brand Coach?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. In -- in what segment do you consider
- 4 Coach handbags to be?
- 5 MR. BUTERMAN: Objection.
- 6 THE WITNESS: Designer.
- 7 BY MR. COLWELL:
- 8 Q. Are you familiar with Kate Spade, the
- 9 brand?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. What segment --
- 12 A. Designer.
- 13 Q. -- are Kate Spade handbags in?
- 14 A. Designer.
- 15 Q. And what segment is Michael Kors?
- 16 MR. BUTERMAN: Objection.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Designer.
- 18 BY MR. COLWELL:
- 19 Q. Are you familiar with any subcategories
- 20 or segments to the designer category or segment
- 21 that you described?
- 22 MR. BUTERMAN: Object to form.

8 (Pages 26 - 29)

Page 30 THE WITNESS: It could be emerging

- 2 designer, select designer, designer boutique.
- 3 Each retailer classifies brands distinctively to
- 4 that retailer.

1

- 5 BY MR. COLWELL:
- 6 Q. Based on your knowledge and experience in
- 7 the handbag industry, are you familiar with the
- 8 phrase "accessible luxury"?
- 9 MR. BUTERMAN: Objection.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 11 BY MR. COLWELL:
- 12 Q. What do you understand that phrase to
- 13 mean?
- 14 A. Those would represent brands that the
- 15 customer would view as designer that are at
- 16 affordable -- what they view -- what are
- 17 affordable price points for that segment of
- 18 customer.
- 19 Q. What handbag brands are in that segment?
- A. There's a lot.
- 21 MR. BUTERMAN: Objection.
- THE WITNESS: Michael Kors, Kate Spade,

Page 31

- 1 Coach, Marc Jacobs, Tory Burch. There are other
- 2 ones as well.
- 3 BY MR. COLWELL:
- 4 Q. What are the differences between that
- 5 segment and the opening price point segment that
- 6 you described?
- A. Two primary differences. One would be
- 8 opening price point segment, most of the handbags
- 9 are constructed of non-leather material; and two,
- 10 price point.
- 11 Q. So do one of those segments use certain
- 12 kinds of materials?
- 13 A. The handbags in the opening price point
- 14 segment are non- -- for all practical purposes,
- 15 non-leather materials.
- 16 Q. Based on your knowledge and experience,
- 17 is Louis Vuitton in that accessible luxury
- 18 segment?
- 19 MR. BUTERMAN: Objection.
- 20 THE WITNESS: No.
- 21 BY MR. COLWELL:
- Q. Why not?

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- 1 A. I would classify Louis Vuitton as a true
- 2 luxury designer.
- 3 Q. And what makes a true luxury designer
- 4 different from the other segment?
- 5 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form.
- 6 THE WITNESS: Price points -- opening
- 7 price points starting in true luxury are higher.
- 8 BY MR. COLWELL:
- 9 Q. How much higher?
- 10 MR. BUTERMAN: Objection.
- 11 THE WITNESS: I can only give you the
- 12 range of where I believe the bulk of true luxury
- 13 handbags begins at, and I believe it is at about
- 14 \$1500 and up.
- 15 BY MR. COLWELL:
- Q. Are there any other brands that you would
- 17 categorize as true luxury designers?
- 18 A. I can repeat. I don't know if I said
- 19 them when you asked me before, but Louis Vuitton,
- 20 Gucci, Prada, Celine.

Page 33

- Q. What are stores' private brands?
- 5 A. Individual retailers have brands that are
- 6 their own, intrinsic to that specific retailer.
- 7 Q. Does Steve Madden produce any private
- 8 label products?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Does Steve Madden produce private label
- 11 handbags?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Are Steve Madden's private label handbags
- 14 different from other handbags that it sells?
- 15 A. I don't manage that segment of our
- 16 business, so I could not answer the question
- 17 completely accurately for you.
- 18 Q. That's fine. Thank you, Ms. Tichner.
- 19 Do you have responsibilities,
- 20 Ms. Tichner, related to sourcing materials for
- 21 Steve Madden's handbags?
- A. The sourcing and the production are

9 (Pages 30 - 33)

3

14

15

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2

17 handbags.

A. China.

8 in Asia.

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4 record. The time is 10:36 a.m.

5 BY MR. COLWELL:

A. Correct.

Page 34 1 handled by my counterpart. 1 the record. The time is 10:24 a.m. 2 (A recess was taken.)

Q. Who is your counterpart? 2

A. Jeff Goldstein.

4 Q. Are you familiar with where Steve Madden

5 produces handbags?

A. Yes. 6

3

7 Q. Where is that?

A. About 95 percent is produced in Asia.

Q. Does Steve Madden manufacture handbags

14 itself in those locations?

A. Can you please repeat the question --15

16 rephrase the question?

Q. Sure. 17

18 Does Steve Madden actually manufacture

19 the handbags it sells itself?

Q. What is a factor?

A. Factory.

Q. Pardon me.

A. We are not -- we work with valued

21 partners as factories. We do not own the

22 factories.

5 products?

1

2

3

4

6

7

8

1 handbags is PU, non-leather-like material. Q. Is PU polyurethane?

Q. Thank you, Ms. Tichner.

3 A. Yes.

Q. Why does Steve Madden use PU for its

5 handbags?

A. PU materials have a very leather-like

7 look to them.

Q. How does the cost of PU materials compare

9 to the cost of leather?

10 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form.

THE WITNESS: PU costs less than leather. 11

12 BY MR. COLWELL:

13 Q. Does Steve Madden consider the cost of

14 the material in selecting it?

MR. BUTERMAN: Object to form. 15

THE WITNESS: Yes.

17 BY MR. COLWELL:

Q. I'd like to move to talk about the design

19 of Steve Madden handbags, Ms. Tichner.

20 Do you have responsibilities related to

21 the design of Steve Madden handbags?

Page 35

Q. And those vendors are located in the --

A. They're lo- --9 Q. -- places you mentioned?

10

A. Yes.

Q. Are you familiar with where Steve Madden 11

So external vendors manufacture the

12 sources materials for its handbags?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Where is that?

15 A. Sourcing is primarily in Asia as well.

MR. COLWELL: Now would be a good time to 16 16

17 take a break. Would you like to take a break,

18 Ms. Tichner?

THE WITNESS: Yes. Thank you. 19

20 MR. COLWELL: Okay. We can go off the

21 record.

22 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Thank you. Going off 22

A. Yes.

10 (Pages 34 - 37)

Page 36

Page 37

VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Going back on the

Q. Ms. Tichner, you mentioned that Steve

Similarly, for sourcing you mentioned

What countries specifically, if you know?

Q. What materials, specifically, does Steve

21 Madden source from China for its handbags?

A. The base material for bulk of the

16 that Steve Madden sources materials from Asia for

7 Madden has its handbags manufactured predominantly

CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER July 22, 2024 Page 38 Page 40 1 Q. What are those responsibilities? 1 Q. What are trending designs? 2 A. I manage the team of designers that work A. Trends that are emerging in the 3 on the product. 3 marketplace globally, not -- not always specific Q. How does Steve Madden design its 4 4 to handbags. 5 handbags? Q. How does Steve Madden become aware of 6 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form. 6 those trends? 7 THE WITNESS: May -- can you please A. It's the lifeblood of the company. We're 8 clarify the question as related to Steve Madden of 8 highly focused on trend and fashion, and that 9 Steve Madden handbags as a general... 9 comes from a corporate perspective. 10 BY MR. COLWELL: 10 Q. Aside from trends, what else do the Q. Does the design process differ by Steve 11 11 brands consider when designing handbags? 12 Madden handbag brand? 12 A. Silhouette, colors, different things 13 A. Yes. 13 happening in the marketplace. Even social Q. How does it differ? 14 14 conditions happening in the marketplace. 15 A. Each brand has separate design process Q. Do Steve Madden's handbag brands design 15 16 unique to its DNA. 16 handbags for any specific types of customers? 17 Q. What do you mean by unique to its DNA?17 MR. BUTERMAN: Object to form. 18 A. May I give an example to clarify this? 18 THE WITNESS: We like to design handbags 19 O. Please do. 19 to cover a broad base of customer. 20 A. Steve Madden brand is very trend-driven. 20 BY MR. COLWELL: 21 So the fastest fashion looks would be something 21 Q. Does that differ in any way by Steve 22 that would be the DNA of Steve Madden. 22 Madden handbag brand? Page 39 Page 41 1 You have a brand like Betsey Johnson, 1 A. Other brands may be a bit more specific 2 which is very fun and whimsical and might have a to the brand, such as Betsey Johnson, which is 3 different DNA. 3 heavily print-driven and specific in that sense. Q. How would you describe the DNA for the Q. Is that brand specific in any other 4 4 5 Betsey Johnson brand? 5 senses? A. Whimsical, fun. There's also an edgy 6 A. Not -- no. 7 side of it, but very specific to Betsey Johnson. Q. What about the other handbag brands? Q. How would you describe the brand DNA for A. Each one of them has specificity in its 9 the licensed brand Anne Klein? 9 DNA but also markets within their DNA to a broad A. I would describe that as more 10 base of customers. Q. Can you explain the differences between 11 traditional. More buttoned-up. 11 12 Steve Madden's handbag brands as it relates to Q. I'd like to talk about how each of Steve 13 Madden's handbag brands design handbags, the 13 that specificity that you just described? 14 MR. BUTERMAN: Objection. Form. 14 process. 15 Starting with the Steve Madden brand, how 15 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. 16 does that brand design handbags? 16 THE WITNESS: Can you clarify if you mean 17 between each of the brands? Is that what you're 17 A. The process for designing handbags for 18 Steve Madden and the other brands, it's -- the 18 asking? Do you want me --19 design process is very similar, but we use 19 BY MR. COLWELL: 20 separate and distinct design teams for each one. 20

11 (Pages 38 - 41)

A. Steve Madden -- all of the brands, when I

22 see the product and we see the product in end use,

21

21

22 into trending designs.

Steve Madden would be heavily focused

O. Yes.

1 meaning we see actual consumers with it, we can 2 see a broad-based customer. Maybe that would help 3 explain it. 4 Q. Does that customer differ by brand? 5 A. There are always similarities and always 6 differences from brand to brand. And brand to 7 brand from store to store. 8 Q. Focusing on Steve Madden's handbag 9 brands, can you describe the differences for each 10 of the handbag brands? 11 MR. BUTFERMAN: Objection. 12 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form. 13 THE WITNESS: We would use something like 14 age as a difference between our handbag customer. 15 The end use of the same product in two different 16 settings would be a range of customers. 17 That's two good examples. 18 MR. COLWELL: I'd like to show you a 19 document, Ms. Tichner? 19 document, Ms. Tichner? 10 page 45 1 MR. GRUNDVIG: Why don't you show it, and 2 we may need to pull it up on a laptop here. 3 (Tichner Deposition Exhibit PX3025 marked 4 for identification and attached to the 5 transcript.) 6 MR. COLWELL: The exhibit is marked 7 PX3025. It was produced as MDDN-TAP000075. And 8 it appears to be an Excel spreadsheet that 9 contains certain data for wholesale and retail 10 sales from Steve Madden from the period of 11 WL US Bags-2023. 12 Q. Us you see the document, Ms. Tichner? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. This is a native file, Excel file, that 25 we've marked as PX3025. 26 Do you recognize this document, 27 Ms. Tichner? 28 A. Yes. 29 Q. And is this document, PX3025, an Excel 20 spreadsheet from Steve Madden containing certain 21 asles data? 21 Q. Sure. 22 Use. 23 of the document number? 24 Q. Sure. 25 Use marked it in preparation for this 26 deposition as PX3025. Steve Madden produced it as 27 MDDN-TAP000075. 29 Q. Is this the document that you reviewed 20 with your colleague, Mr. Gioia? 21 A. Yes. 22 Q. If you click on the tab marked 25 Do you see that? 26 Q. WL US Bags-2023. 27 Do you see that? 28 A. Can you just repeat the tab again, 29 Contains certain data for wholesale and retail 29 Contains certain data for wholesale and retail 20 Sales from Stev		CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT	ГΤ	O PROTECTIVE ORDER July 22, 2024
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	9	contains certain data for wholesale and retail	9	(Discussion off the record.)
11 January 2019 through April 2024 11 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Counsel would you	10	sales from Steve Madden from the period of	10	THE WITNESS: Hold, please.
11 valuary 2017 arrough ripin 2024.	11	January 2019 through April 2024.	11	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Counsel, would you
MR. GRUNDVIG: Peter, we need to pull 12 like to go off the record?	12	MR. GRUNDVIG: Peter, we need to pull	12	like to go off the record?
13 that up. We're not getting it through the 13 MS. KEITH: Maybe for a minute, just so	13	that up. We're not getting it through the	13	MS. KEITH: Maybe for a minute, just so
14 connection we have. 14 we can figure out whose screen she should look at	14	connection we have.	14	we can figure out whose screen she should look at
15 MR. COLWELL: It should be located in the 15 to best see it.	15	MR. COLWELL: It should be located in the		
16 marked exhibit folder in Exhibit Share. 16 MR. COLWELL: Yes. Thank you. That	16	marked exhibit folder in Exhibit Share.	16	MR. COLWELL: Yes. Thank you. That
MR. GRUNDVIG: We need to pull up Exhibit 17 would be helpful, just to make sure she has it.	17	MR. GRUNDVIG: We need to pull up Exhibit	17	
18 Share. Hold on one sec. 18 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Going off the record.	18	Share. Hold on one sec.	18	VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Going off the record.

12 (Pages 42 - 45)

20

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21

22

MR. COLWELL: Okay.

(Discussion off the record.)

THE WITNESS: I think we're set.

19 The time is 10:57 a.m.

22 record. The time is 10:59 a.m.

(Discussion off the record.)

VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Going back on the

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1 BY MR. COLWELL:

- 2 Q. Ms. Tichner, are you able to see the
- 3 spreadsheet that I've marked as PX3025?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Were you able to go to the tab
- 6 WL US Bags-2023?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. What do you understand the data in this
- 9 tab to be for?
- 10 A. These are U.S. wholesale sales for the
- 11 year of 2023.
- 12 Q. Does WL refer to wholesale in this
- 13 spreadsheet?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. One of the columns in this tab is titled,
- 16 "Original Price."
- 17 Do you see that?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. What does original price refer to in this
- 20 spreadsheet?
- 21 A. The price that the item was sold to the
- 22 customer at.

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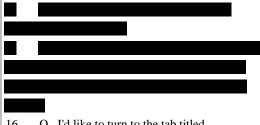
- 1 Q. Does this sheet show any discounting to
- 2 prices?
- 3 A. The only way that I would know if the
- 4 original price here shows a discount is if I had
- 5 all -- the wholesale list that documents every
- 6 single SKU that's listed.
- 7 Q. What costs of sale are included on the
- 8 wholesale sheets in this Excel file?
- 9 A. Can you please rephrase the question?
- 10 Q. Sure.
- There is a column titled, "Cost of Sale" 11
- 12 for the tab we're on, WL US Bags-2023.
- 13 Do you see that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 O. What is cost of sale?
- A. That refers to the price or the cost that
- 17 the item technically is in our system at. Sort of
- 18 our landed cost, if you will.
- 19 O. What is landed cost?
- 20 A. That would refer to the first cost of the
- 21 item, plus whatever transportation or duty or
- 22 freight, whatever was added on to the price of th

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- 1 item, and then what it actually cost us would be a
- 2 combination of all of those individual pieces.
- Q. Can you turn to the -- tab 4, retail --
- 4 or RT, pardon me. The tab is labeled
- 5 RT US Bags M3-2023.
- A. I can't find it here, but --
- 7 MS. KEITH: Here.
- THE WITNESS: I have it.
- 9 BY MR. COLWELL:
- 10 Q. What do you understand this tab,
- 11 RT US Bags M3-2023, to represent?
- 12 A. It records the sale of our own retail
- 13 stores, together with our direct-to-consumer,
- 14 meaning our e-commerce site, for Steve Madden.
- 15 And it also includes Dolce Vita and Betsey Johnson
- 16 retail or -- and/or direct-to-consumer are
- 17 captured in that division.
- 18 Q. Does RT on this spreadsheet reference
- 19 retail?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. One of the columns on this spreadsheet is
- 22 titled, "Cost of Sale."

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- 1 Do you see that?
- A. Just a moment.
- 3 MS. KEITH: It's a touchscreen, so you
- 4 can...
- 5 THE WITNESS: Okay. That would refer to
- 6 the cost in the system for those divisions.
- 7 Similar to the cost that's in the wholesale
- 8 system.
- 9 BY MR. COLWELL:



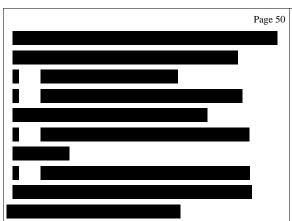
Q. I'd like to turn to the tab titled

- 17 RT US Bags ORSI 2019-2024, 04 is in parentheses.
- 18 Do you see that tab?
- 19 A. Yes.

13 (Pages 46 - 49)

4

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- 11 Q. Steve Madden uses those systems --
- 12 A. Correct.
- Q. -- internally? 13
- 14 A. Correct.
- Q. This tab includes a class category. It's 15
- 16 a column, rather --
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. "Class" is the title of that column.
- 19 Do you see it?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. What does "class" mean here?
- A. It's a segment on which to define the 22

1 minibag, we might refer to backpack, small

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Page 53

- 2 backpack, large, just for analytics.
- 3 BY MR. COLWELL:
 - Q. Going back to the tab WL US Bags-2023
- 5 Do you see that?
- 6 A. Yes.
- Q. Is there a column that provides category
- 8 information, similar to the class and subclass
- 9 columns that we just reviewed in the retail tab?
- 10 A. It would be located in either one of two
- 11 columns, I believe product group or subgroup.
- 12 Q. What does product group include? The
- 13 column product group.
- A. Yup. Those are hierarchy codes we use to 14
- 15 assign the specific attributes of the bags so that
- 16 we can classify them.
- 17 Q. And what is subgroup in the subgroup
- 18 column?
- 19 A. It would be by not only the category but
- 20 also by color, I believe.
- 21 Q. For the product at issue?
- A. Correct. 22

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- 1 Q. I'd like to go to the tab marked
 - 2 M3-production data.
 - 3 A. I have it.
 - Q. What does this tab represent?
 - 5 A. These are the orders -- it's production
 - 6 data to quantify the orders that we place to the
 - 7 factory for the specific styles that we sell by
 - 8 division.
 - Q. Can you explain that process further,
 - 10 placing orders?
 - A. Sure. When we place an order for a
 - 12 product, we place something called a WIP, which is
 - 13 short for work in progress. And it's just sort of
 - 14 the purchase order for those particular items that

 - 15 we buy from the different factories. So we record
 - 16 the actual purchasing of them in separate
 - 17 divisions -- in separate lines, and we do,
 - 18 obviously, the sale for it.
 - 19 Q. Thank you for explaining that for me,
 - 20 Ms. Tichner.
 - 21 There is a column on the same tab,
 - 22 M3-production data, titled, "Supplier name."

1 category of where the bag sits. So day -- I see

- 2 day, a day bag, a larger size bag, evening. Might
- 3 be something that was smaller that one would
- 4 classify as an evening bag.
- 5 Q. The next column is titled, "Subclass."
- 6 Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. What does that represent?
- 9 A. Again, I manage the wholesale, but it is
- 10 basically a handbag silhouette, taking a category
- 11 and then breaking it down by silhouette.
- 12 For instance, you might have a day
- 13 handbag that could be characterized as an hobo or
- 14 a tote or a satchel or a mini. So it's a further
- 15 characterization.
- Q. Does wholesale uses the same 16
- 17 categorizations?
- 18 A. Similar.
- 19 Q. How are they different?
- 20 A. We --
- 21 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form.
- 22 THE WITNESS: We might, instead of

Case 1:24-cv-03109-JLR Page 15 of 31 CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER July 22, 2024 Page 54 Page 56 1 Do you see that? 1 Q. I'd like to move to the next and final 2 A. Just a moment. Yes. Those would be the tab, which is titled ORSI production data. 3 3 names of the suppliers to where we place the Do you see that? 4 A. Yes. Q. What do these suppliers do for Steve 5 Q. What information is conveyed in this tab? 5 6 Madden? A. Those would be the orders that the Steve 7 A. To clarify, supplier would be 7 Madden retail stores places directly for bags that 8 interchangeable word with factory. So they're the will be distributed at retail stores and 9 actual factory -- we call them suppliers -- that 9 direct-to-consumer. 10 10 manufacture the bags. It also included Betsey Johnson and 11 Q. There is another column titled, "Country 11 Dolce Vita before those moved, again, into the M3 12 of origin." 12 above it. 13 It refers to the orders for the retail 13 Do you see that? 14 A. Yes. 14 stores that are placed at the factory. O. What does that column contain? 15 16 A. That is the country of where each item is 17 made specifically. 18 Q. The next column is titled, "Period," and 19 then, in parentheses, YYYYMM. 19 MR. BUTERMAN: Object to form. 20 Do you see that column? 20 THE WITNESS: Oh. Can you please ask the 21 A. I do. 21 question again? 22 Q. What information is in this column? 22 Page 55 Page 57 1 A. That is the year and the month of the 2 order from the supplier to our company.

3 Q. What happens after you place that order? A. Magic. No. The factory gets the order. 4 5 Then, based on the calendar, the dates for each 6 item are different, meaning each order is placed 7 to correspond to the shipping period of which we 8 ship the handbags to our customers. So they're on a calendar. They produce 10 and manufacture the bags. And then those bags

12 deadlines and the deliveries that are written for 13 each order by brand. 14 Q. There's a column titled, "Landed Cost."

11 then are shipped to us so that we can meet the

15 Do you see that column?

16 A. I do.

17 Q. What is in that column?

18 A. I just want to make sure I'm seeing it

19 correctly.

20 So that is an extension of, I believe,

21 multiplying a certain amount of units that's in

22 the column before by the landed cost per bag.

14

Q. Thank you, Ms. Tichner. You can put --

15 A. That away?

16 Q. -- PX3025 away.

17 MR. COLWELL: I'd like to take a short

18 break, if we can go off the record.

VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Going off the record.

20 The time is 11:22 a.m.

21 (A recess was taken.)

22 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Going back on the

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Page 58	Page 60
1 record. The time is 11:32 a.m.	1 And this will be DX is it 707, Kimon?
2 MR. COLWELL: Ms. Tichner, thanks very	2 MR. TRIANTAFYLLOU: That's right.
3 much again for your time today. Those are all of	3 THE WITNESS: Does it have a header on
4 the questions for you that I have at the moment,	4 the top?
5 but I'll reserve the remainder of my time to use	5 MR. BUTERMAN: This is you'll see it
6 if necessary.	6 in the Exhibit Share in a moment.
7 THE WITNESS: You're welcome. Nice	7 At the top it will say United States
8 meeting you.	8 Securities and Exchange Commission Form 10-K,
9 MR. COLWELL: Likewise.	9 Steve Madden, Ltd.
10 EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR TAPESTRY, INC.	10 (Tichner Deposition Exhibit DX707 marked
11 BY MR. BUTERMAN:	for identification and attached to the
12 Q. Good morning, Ms. Tichner. As I	12 transcript.)
13 mentioned earlier, my name is Larry Buterman, and	13 BY MR. BUTERMAN:
14 I'm an attorney representing Tapestry, Inc., in	Q. You may it should be in the Exhibit
15 connection with these cases.	15 Share now. You just would need to refresh.
16 Ms. Tichner, is Steve Madden a public	16 A. I see it.
17 company?	17 Q. Great. And you see that it says, United
18 A. Yes.	18 States Securities and Exchange Commission, D.C.
19 Q. As a public company, does Steve Madden	19 20549, Form 10-K. And then, underneath there,
20 make regular filings to the Securities and	20 there's a box that's checked that says, Annual
21 Exchange Commission?	21 report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
22 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form.	22 Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for the fiscal
Page 59	Page 61
1 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Leading.	1 year ended December 31st, 2023?
2 THE WITNESS: I believe I can't answer	2 A. I do not see that yet.
3 that. Maybe with earnings reports and things like	3 Q. Okay.
4 that. I'm not familiar with that part.	4 A. If you'd like to read back that sentence
5 BY MR. BUTERMAN:	5 quickly, I believe I found what you asked me.
6 Q. Have you ever heard of something called a	6 Q. Sure. On the top of the first page of
7 Form 10-K?	7 the document, do you see that it says, United
8 A. I don't believe so.	8 States Securities and Exchange Commission,
9 Q. Okay. Do you know if, when Steve Madden	9 Washington, D.C. 20549, and then there's a box
10 makes filings to the Securities and Exchange	10 that's marked and next to it it says, Annual
11 Commission, it attempts to be truthful and	11 report pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the
12 accurate?	12 Securities Exchange Act of 1934 for the fiscal
13 MR. COLWELL: Objection.	13 year ended December 31st, 2023?
14 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection.	14 A. Yes.
MR. COLWELL: Foundation and form.	15 Q. Okay. And I'll represent to you that
16 THE WITNESS: If we made a filing, I know	16 this is Steve Madden's most recent annual report
17 it would be truthful and accurate.	17 that it filed with the SEC.
18 BY MR. BUTERMAN:	Can you turn to page 5 of the document?
19 Q. Okay. I'd like to show you a document.	19 It's the page that starts at the top with the
20 MR. BUTERMAN: This is in the tab	20 bolded heading "Item 1. Business."

16 (Pages 58 - 61)

MS. KEITH: It's page 5 of the document,

22 page 3 of the numbered pages --

21

21 binder -- it's Exhibit 34. That's for my team to

22 get it into the Exhibit Share.

Page 62 Page 64 1 MR. BUTERMAN: Yes, that's correct. 1 various countries in Asia." 2 Sorry. I was going by the PDF pages. O. Is that a truthful and accurate 3 MS. KEITH: I think she was confused. 3 statement? 4 MR. BUTERMAN: Thank you. A. Yes. That is a true and accurate 5 THE WITNESS: Okay. I found the page 5 statement. 6 that you're looking for. Q. Okay. Could you look down a little bit 7 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 7 further on the page where it says -- you see it Q. Okay. And can you just read the first says, "Our segments"? 9 two sentences into the record? 9 A. Yes. A. Would you like me to read the header on 10 10 Q. And then underneath there's a section 11 the page --11 entitled, "Wholesale accessories/apparel." 12 Q. Sure. That's fine. 12 Do you see that? 13 A. Safe harbor statement --13 A. Yes. 14 Q. Oh, no, no, no, I'm sorry -- not the 14 Q. Could you read that paragraph, please? 15 header on the page. I'd just like you to read the A. "Wholesale accessories/apparel. Our 15 16 part under item 1, business. 16 wholesale accessories/apparel segments designs, 17 17 sources, and markets our brands and sells our MS. KEITH: There. 18 THE WITNESS: I apologize, my pages are 18 products to department stores, mass merchants, 19 not lining up with yours. 19 off-price retailers, online retailers, specialty 20 MS. KEITH: It's page 5 -- page 3 of the 20 retailers, independent stores, and clubs 21 report, so up -- yeah. Why is it not -- that's 5. 21 throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, and 22 It's page 3. There you go. Item 1, business. 22 Europe, and through our joint ventures and Page 63 Page 65 1 Do you need him to zoom? Can you see? 1 international distributor network. Our wholesale 2 THE WITNESS: I can read. 2 accessories/apparel business primarily consists of 3 MS. KEITH: Okay. 3 handbags, apparel, small leather goods, belts, THE WITNESS: Item 1 business. Shall I 4 soft accessories, fashion scarves, wraps, gifting, 5 and other trend accessories. The wholesale 5 begin there? 6 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 6 accessories/apparel segment primarily consists of 7 Q. Yeah, just the first two sentences. 7 the following brands: Steve Madden, Anne Klein, A. "Steve Madden, Limited, and its 8 Betsey Johnson, Dolce Vita. This segment also 9 subsidiary [sic] design, source, and market includes our private label handbag and accessories 10 fashion-forward branded private label footwear, 10 business. This segment represents 21 percent of 11 accessories and apparel. We distribute our 11 total revenue, 2023." 12 products in the wholesale channel through Q. And to the best of your knowledge, are 13 department stores, mass merchants, off-price 13 those statements correct and accurate? 14 retailers, shoe chains, online retailers, national 14 A. Yes. 15 chains, specialty retailers, independent stores, 15 Q. If you look down in the 16 and clubs throughout the United States, Canada, 16 direct-to-consumer section below, do you see 17 Mexico, and Europe and other international markets 17 there's a paragraph that begins, "In 2023" --18 A. Yes, I do. 18 through our joint ventures in Israel, South 19 Africa, China, Taiwan, Malaysia, and the Middle 19 Q. It's the second -- okay. 20 East, along with special distribution arrangements 20 Can you read the second sentence, the one 21 in certain European countries, North Africa, South 21 that begins, "As of December 31st"? 22 Africa [sic], Central America, Australia, and 22 A. "As of December 31st, 2023, we operated

17 (Pages 62 - 65)

Page 68

- 1 255 brick-and-mortar retail stores, including 181
- 2 Steve Madden full-price stores, 71 Steve Madden
- 3 outlet stores, and three Dolce Vita full-price
- 4 store." Typo.
- 5 Did you want me to continue --
- 6 O. Is that sentence truthful and accurate?
- 7 A. Yes. That's truthful and accurate.
- 8 Q. Can you scroll down to the next page?
- 9 And that's page 4 of the document, page 6 of the
- 10 PDF, to the part that reads, "Product Design and
- 11 Development."
- 12 Do you see that?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Could you read that paragraph, please?
- 15 A. "Product design and development. We have
- 16 established a reputation for our creative designs,
- 17 marketing, and trend-right products in affordable
- 18 price points. Our future success will be --
- 19 substantially depend on our ability to continue to
- 20 anticipate and react quickly to changing -- react
- 21 quickly to changing consumer demands. To meet
- 22 this objective, we have developed what we believe
 - Page 67
- 1 is an unparalleled design team and process. Our
- 2 design team strives to create designs that are
- 3 true to our DNA, reflect current or anticipated
- 4 trends, and can be manufactured in a timely and
- 5 cost-effective manner. Most new products are
- 6 tested in select retail stores and on direct
- 7 operated e-commerce websites. Based on these
- 8 tests, among other things, management selects
- 9 products that are then offered for wholesale and
- 10 direct-to-consumer distribution worldwide. We
- 11 believe that our design and testing processes,
- 12 combined with our flexible sourcing model, provide
- 13 our brands with a significant competitive
- 14 advantage and allow us to migrate [sic] the risk
- 15 of incurring costs associated with the production
- 16 and distribution of less desirable designs."
- 17 Q. And is that a truthful and accurate
- 18 statement?
- 19 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection.
- 20 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.
- 21 THE WITNESS: That is.
- 22

- 1 BY MR. BUTERMAN:
- O. Where does Steve Madden learn of the
- 3 current or anticipated trends that its design team
- 4 strives to create designs that match up with?
- 5 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.
- 6 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form.
- 7 THE WITNESS: The trends or the designs
- 8 can come from anywhere, from looking at what's
- 9 trending in the marketplace to traveling to what's
- 10 happening. As I said, can -- all over. And we
- 11 have teams dedicated to this.
- 12 BY MR. BUTERMAN:
- 13 Q. When you say that trends can include what
- 14 is trending in the marketplace, what do you mean
- 15 by that?
- 16 A. Example: There used to -- backpacks were
- 17 never considered a category in handbags. When
- 18 those started to emerge, we would start to see
- 19 hand -- we would start to see a lot of backpacks.
- 20 That would be something that we would be
- 21 considered a trend, and we would make sure we had
- 22 those -- that trend covered in our brands.
 - Page 6
- 1 Q. In determining which products to design,
- 2 does Steve Madden look to see what types of
- 3 products are selling well at other competitive
- 4 brands?
- 5 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.
- 6 Foundation.
- 7 THE WITNESS: I can't answer the question
- 8 that Steve Madden would always know the answer of
- 9 what is selling at other competitive brands. But
- 10 we would use whatever information we have in the
- 11 marketplace to establish items that we wish to
- 12 market.
- 13 BY MR. BUTERMAN:
- 14 Q. Which brands would Steve Madden look to
- 15 when it is trying to understand current or
- 16 anticipated trends?
- 17 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form.
- 18 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.
- 19 Foundation.
- THE WITNESS: We would look at all brands
- 21 all over the world in all different categories to
- 22 see what is actually happening.

CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER July 22, 2024 Page 70 Page 72 1 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 1 We believe effective marketing, favorable brand Q. When you say all brands all over the 2 image, fashionable styling, high quality, value, 3 world, would that include the brands that you 3 and fast manufacturing turnaround are the most 4 identified earlier today as luxury brands? 4 important competitive forces. We intend to 5 A. Yes, that would. 5 continue employ these elements in our business. O. And would that include the brands that 6 However, we cannot be certain that we will be able 7 you, I believe, referred to earlier as accessible 7 to compete successfully against our current and 8 luxury brands? 8 future competitors or that competitive pressures 9 A. Yes. It may. 9 will not have a material adverse effect on our 10 business, financial conditions, and results of 10 Q. Can you look down a little bit further to 11 operations." 11 the section on the page in the document that's 12 numbered 5 -- it's 7 of your PDF -- entitled, 12 Q. A truthful and accurate statement? 13 "Distribution"? 13 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form. 14 A. I see it. 14 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form. Q. Do you see the last sentence says, "Our 15 THE WITNESS: Yes. 15 16 top 10 wholesale customers, in no particular 16 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 17 order, include Nordstrom, Macy's, Dillard's, DSW, 17 Q. Does Steve Madden believe that the 18 the JTX [sic] Companies, Ross Stores, Burlington 18 handbag industry is highly competitive? 19 Stores, Amazon, Walmart, and Target"? 19 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form. 20 A. Yes. 20 THE WITNESS: Can you just rephrase --21 Q. Is that a truthful and accurate 21 are you -- is the question Steve Madden Companies 22 statement? 22 believe? Is that the question that you're asking? Page 71 Page 73 1 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. 1 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 2 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form. Q. Yes. Does Steve Madden Companies -- do 3 THE WITNESS: Yes. 3 Steve Madden Companies believe -- or strike that. 4 BY MR. BUTERMAN: Does the overall Steve Madden Company 5 Q. The --5 believe that the handbag industry is highly 6 A. One -competitive? 7 Q. Yes, please. 7 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form. 8 A. -- amendment to my answer. You 8 THE WITNESS: Yes. 9 pronounced one was JTX. It's actually TJX. 9 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 10 Q. TJX, I'm sorry. O. Is it true that Steve Madden's handbags 11 A. Yes. 11 compete with numerous domestic and international 12 Q. Thank you for the clarification. 12 companies? Could you look at the next page of the 13 13 A. True. 14 document and the section that's bolded 14 Q. Do Steve Madden's brands create 15 "Competition." 15 high-quality handbags? 16 A. I see it. A. Yes. 16 17 Q. Can you please read that paragraph? 17 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form. A. "Competition. The fashion industry is 18 18 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 19 highly competitive. We compete with numerous 19 Q. I'm sorry, I couldn't hear your answer,

19 (Pages 70 - 73)

A. Yes. We have high-quality handbags in

22 greater financial and other resources than we do 22 the price points of which we sell our items.

20 domestic and international footwear, apparel, and 20 Ms. Tichner.

21 accessory companies. Our competitors may have 21

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	Page 74		Page 76
1	Q. Could you please turn to page 10 of the	1	increase, just so I'm clear?
2	document that's page 12 of your PDF?	2	BY MR. BUTERMAN:
3	Are you there?	3	Q. Sure. Sure.
4	A. Yes.	4	Do Steve Madden brands ever have to
5	Q. Okay. Do you see the section entitled,	5	increase markdown allowances for customers because
6	"Industry Risks"?	6	they have misjudged whether a particular bag would
7	A. I do.	7	sell?
8	Q. Could you please read the first bold	8	MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.
9	bolded italicized header?	9	MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection.
10	A. "The fashion footwear, accessories, and	10	THE WITNESS: Yes.
11	apparel industry is subject to rapid changes in	11	BY MR. BUTERMAN:
12	consumer preference. If we do not accurately	12	Q. Could you read the next bolded italicized
13	anticipate fashion trends and promptly respond t	013	sentence?
14	consumer demand, we could lose sales, and	14	A. That begins with "We face"?
15	relationship to customers relations with	15	Q. Yes.
16	customers could be harmed and our brand loyalt	y16	A. "We face intense competition from both
17	could be diminished."	17	established companies and newer entrants into the
18	Q. With respect to Steve Madden's handbag	18	market. Our failure to compete effectively could
19	brands, is that correct a truthful and accurate	19	cause our market share to decline, which could
20	statement?	20	harm our reputation and have a material impact on
21	MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection.	21	our financial condition, results of operation, and
22	MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.	22	liquidity."
	Page 75		Page 77
1	THE WITNESS: Yes.	1	Q. Do Steve Madden's handbag brands face
2	BY MR. BUTERMAN:	2	intense competition from both established
3	Q. If you look in the paragraph that follows	3	companies and newer entrants into the market?
4	below, do you see the sentence that says, "If we	4	MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.
5	misjudge"? It's about halfway through.	5	THE WITNESS: Yes.
6	A. Yes, I see the sentence.	6	BY MR. BUTERMAN:
7	Q. Could you please read that sentence?	7	Q. Can you please read the next sentence?
8	A. "If we misjudge the market for our	8	A. The one that begins
9	products, we may be faced with significant excess	9	Q. Yes.
10	inventory for some products and missed opportunity	10	A "The fashion"?
11	as to others. In addition, misjudgments in	11	"The fashion footwear, accessories, and
12	merchandise selection could adversely affect our	12	apparel industry is highly competitive, and
13	image with the customers, resulting in lower sales	13	barriers to entry are low. Our competitors
14	and increased markdown allowances for customers,	14	include"
15	which could have a material adverse effect on our	15	Q. That's okay. If you could just stop
16	business, financial conditions, results of	16	right there.
17	operations, and liquidity."	17	A. Okay.

20 space to be highly competitive? 21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Does Steve Madden believe that, in the

Q. Within the handbag space -- strike that.

Does Steve Madden consider the handbag

18 19

18

20

21

Q. Do Steve Madden brands ever have to

MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.

22 mean as increase? From what starting point is the

THE WITNESS: Can you qualify what you

19 increase markdowns for customers for handbags?

CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER July 22, 2024 Page 78 Page 80 1 handbag space, barriers to entry are low? 1 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 2 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form. Q. Do you see the next sentence that's 3 Foundation. 3 bolded and italicized? THE WITNESS: Yes. 4 A. That begins with "If we"? 5 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 5 Q. Yes. Yes. Q. Could you read the next sentence? "Our 6 A. I do see it. 7 competitors" --Q. Could you read that sentence, please? 8 A. "Our competitors" --8 A. "If we and the retailers that our 9 Q. Sorry. 9 customers are unable to adapt to recent and 10 A. -- "include specialty companies as well 10 anticipated changes in the retail industry, the 11 as companies with diversified product lines." 11 sale of our products may decline, which could have 12 Q. In the handbag space, do Steve Madden's 12 a material adverse effect on our financial 13 competitors include specialty companies, as well 13 condition, results of operation, and liquidity." 14 as companies with diversified product lines? Q. And if you look down a couple of 15 A. Yes. 15 sentences, do you see the sentence that begins, Q. The next sentence reads, "Market growth 16 "Changing shopping patterns"? 16 17 in the sale of fashion footwear, accessories, and A. I see that sentence. 18 apparel has encouraged the entry of many new 18 Q. Could you read that sentence, please? competitors and increased competition from A. "Changing shopping patterns, including 20 established companies." 20 the rapid expansion of online retail shopping and 21 Do you see that? 21 the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic have adversely 22 A. I do. 22 affected consumer traffic in mall and outlet Page 79 Page 81 Q. In the handbag space, does Steve Madden 1 centers, particularly in North America." 1 2 believe that market growth and sales has Q. Does Steve Madden believe that, in the 3 encouraged new entry of many new competitors and 3 handbag sector, changing shopping patterns, 4 increased competition from established companies? 4 including the rapid expansion of online retail 5 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form. 5 shopping and the effects of COVID -- of the THE WITNESS: Yes. 6 COVID-19 pandemic, have adversely affected 7 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 7 customer traffic in malls and outlet centers, Q. If you look down a couple of sentences it particularly in North America? 9 says, "Increased competition could result in 9 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. 10 pricing pressures, increased marketing 10 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form. 11 expenditures, and loss of market share and could THE WITNESS: Yes. 11 12 have a material effect -- adverse effect on our 12 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 13 business, financial condition, results of Q. The next sentence says, "We expect 14 competition in the e-commerce market will 14 operations, and liquidity." 15 intensify."

15 Do you see that?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Does Steve Madden believe that, in the

18 handbag space, increased competition could result

19 in pricing pressures, increased marketing

20 expenditures, and loss of market share?

21 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.

THE WITNESS: Yes. 22

16 Do you see that?

17 A. Just a moment.

18 Yes, I do.

19 O. Does Steve Madden believe -- excuse me,

20 strike that.

21 Does Steve Madden expect that competition

22 in the e-commerce market will intensify with

Page 82 1 respect to handbags?

- 2 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 4 BY MR. BUTERMAN:
- 5 Q. The next sentence says, "As a greater
- 6 portion of consumer expenditures with retailers
- 7 occurs online and through mobile commerce
- 8 applications, our brick-and-mortar retail
- 9 customers who fail to successfully integrate their 9 to brick-and-mortar or to Macy's business overall?
- 10 physical retail stores and digital retail may
- 11 experience financial difficulties, including store
- 12 closures, bankruptcies, or liquidations."
- 13 Do you see that?
- 14 A. I do.
- 15 O. Does Steve Madden believe that its
- 16 brick-and-mortar retail customers need to
- 17 successfully integrate their physical retail
- 18 stores and digital retail in order to avoid
- 19 experiencing financial difficulties when it comes 19
- 20 to handbag sales?
- 21 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.
- 22 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form.

Page 84 5 BY MR. BUTERMAN:

- Q. Are those the only brands at Macy's that
- 7 Steve Madden believes it competes with?
- A. Can you qualify if you are referring only
- Q. Is there a different answer with respect
- 11 to each of those?
- 12 A. You -- yes.
- Q. Okay. Could you explain how the answer
- 14 is different with respect to each of those?
- 15 A. You might have additional handbag brands
- 16 that are direct-to-consumer that may not be on the
- 17 floor in an adjacency to Steve Madden brands in
- 18 the doors that we sell in at Macy's.
 - Q. Okay. So with respect to Macy's overall
- 20 business, are there any additional brands that
- 21 Steve Madden believes it competes with beyond the
- 22 ones you've already mentioned?

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- 1 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 2 BY MR. BUTERMAN:
- Q. At the beginning of the deposition, 3
- 4 counsel for the FTC asked you whether you have any
- 5 role related to analyzing competition.
- 6 Do you recall him asking you that?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. Your answer was that you are actively
- 9 responsible for always being conscious of other
- 10 brands that are selling handbags in the same
- 11 retailers that you are operating in.
- 12 Do you recall giving that answer?
- A. Yes. 13

- 1 A. I think any brand --
- 2 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.
- 3 Foundation. Pardon me.
- BY MR. BUTERMAN:
- 5 Q. Go ahead.

Page 83

- A. I think any brand that is selling
- 7 handbags in the same retailer that I am selling
- 8 handbags in would be viewed as competition.
- Q. So do Steve Madden's handbags compete
- 10 with Michael Kors' handbags at Macy's?
- 11 A. We all compete for the same space on the
- 12 floor and the consumer shopping that floor.
- 13 Q. Is that a yes?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. Do Steve Madden's bags compete with 15
- 16 Kate Spade's bags at Macy's?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Do Steve Madden's bags compete with
- 19 Coach's bags at Macy's?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Do Steve Madden's bags compete with
- 22 Michael Kors' bags at Dillard's?

22 (Pages 82 - 85)

July 22, 2024 Page 86 Page 88 1 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Foundation. The brands in the accessible luxury 2 THE WITNESS: Yes. grouping that you identified earlier today, those 3 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 3 brands nonetheless compete with the Steve Madden Q. Do Steve Madden's bags compete with 4 brands, correct? 5 Kate Spade's bags at Dillard's? 5 MR. COLWELL: Objection --6 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection --7 Q. Do Steve Madden's bags compete with 7 MR. COLWELL: -- form. 8 Coach's bags at Dillard's? 8 MR. GRUNDVIG: -- form. 9 9 A. Yes. THE WITNESS: Correct. 10 Q. I, in asking those questions, mentioned 10 BY MR. BUTERMAN: Q. When counsel asked you to identify brands 11 Steve Madden's bags. 12 When you were answering those, were you 12 that were in the accessible luxury grouping, you 13 referring just to the Steve Madden brand or to said that there were a lot. 14 Steve Madden, Dolce Vita, and Betsey Johnson? 14 Do you recall that? MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form. A. Any of the brands that I sell on the 15 15 16 retailers that you mentioned. 16 THE WITNESS: Yes. Q. So just so we're clear, Steve Madden, 17 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 17 18 Betsey Johnson, and Dolce Vita all compete with 19 Michael Kors, Kate Spade, and Coach in handbags; 20 is that correct? 21 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form. 22 THE WITNESS: All handbag brands are Page 89 Page 87 1 competitors. Yes. 2 BY MR. BUTERMAN: Q. And so even though counsel, earlier 4 today, asked you to identify certain brands that 5 you would classify as accessible luxury, the fact 6 that you have identified a brand as being an 7 accessible luxury does not mean that the Steve 8 Madden brands do not compete with that brand \(\) 9 with those brands, correct? 10 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form. 10 Q. Any others you can think of? THE WITNESS: Can you just repeat that 11 11 A. That's a good list, a good portion of 12 question --12 them. 13 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 13 MR. BUTERMAN: Why don't we take a break 14 Q. Sure. 14 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Going off the record. A. -- one more time, please? Thank you. 15 15 The time is 12:16 p.m. 16 Q. Earlier today counsel asked you to (A recess was taken.) 17 identify certain brands that would be categorized 17 VIDEO TECHNICIAN: Going back on the 18 as accessible luxury. 18 record. The time is 12:30 p.m. 19 Do you recall that? 19 BY MR. BUTERMAN:

23 (Pages 86 - 89)

Q. Ms. Tichner, earlier today counsel asked 21 you questions about which segment of the handbag

22 business you believed the Steve Madden brands fit

20

21

A. I do.

Q. The fact that a brand was identified

22 earlier today as being -- strike that.

CONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER

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1 into.		1	MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection	n. Form.
2 Do you re	call that?	2	THE WITNESS: The titles of	r the headers

- 3 A. Yes. Q. And which segment did you identify that 4
- 5 the Steve Madden brands belonged to?
- MR. COLWELL: Objection. Asked and 6
- 7 answered.
- 8 THE WITNESS: I gave -- I said it was
- 9 entry-level trend, sometimes referred to as
- 10 moderate -- that's not my favorite title. There
- 11 are several names for it.
- 12 BY MR. BUTERMAN:
- Q. And your testimony is that all of the 13
- 14 Steve Madden brands -- Steve Madden, Betsey
- 15 Johnson, Love Betsey, Dolce Vita, and
- 16 Anne Klein -- would all fall into those segments; 16 BY MR. BUTERMAN:
- 17 is that correct?
- 18 A. To make sure -- to correct or
- 19 quantify [sic], Dolce Vita would fall outside of
- 20 those brands.
- 21 Q. And where would Dolce Vita qualify, in
- 22 your view?

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- 1 A. Contemporary brands.
- 2 Q. Is contemporary different than designer?
- 3 A. The titles that we're throwing around
- 4 here are often inter-used or are used by different
- 5 retailers in different places. For example, one
- 6 department store might refer to a brand as
- 7 designer, where another department store might
- 8 refer to that same brand as a contemporary
- 9 designer.
- 10 Q. Okay.
- 11 A. Or contemporary.
- 12 Q. Okay. So just so we're clear, the fact
- 13 that a company -- strike that.
- 14 Just so we're clear, the fact that a
- 15 handbag brand may be referred to as opening price
- 16 point, moderate, contemporary, designer, that
- 17 doesn't say anything about whether it's competing
- 18 -- strike that.
- Do these designations have anything to do
- 20 with whether brands are competing with one
- 21 another?
- 22 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.

- THE WITNESS: The titles or the headers
- 3 or however you like to qualify these brands can
- 4 vary from retailer to retailer. What is
- 5 consistent are the brands that each retailer
- 6 sells. That is where the brands compete.
- 7 BY MR. BUTERMAN:
- Q. Okay. So just so we're clear, for
- 9 example, the brands that you've identified as
- 10 designer, like Kate Spade and Michael Kors, in
- 11 Macy's are competing with brands that are also in
- 12 the opening price point or contemporary, correct?
- MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.
- 14 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- Q. Are you familiar with a -- you're
- 18 familiar with a company called Stella McCartney?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. Stella McCartney -- where would you
- 21 classify Stella McCartney in terms of its
- 22 products? Would they be in the luxury space?

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- 1 A. Yes. I would classify Stella McCartney
- 2 as a true designer or luxury designer.
- Q. Are you familiar with a company called 3
- 4 Balenciaga?
- 5 A. I am familiar with that company.
- Q. Would you consider Balenciaga to be a
- 7 luxury designer?
- 8 A. Yes.
- Q. Are you familiar with a company called
- 10 Valentino?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Would you consider Valentino to be a
- 13 luxury designer?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. You are aware that Stella McCartney,
- 16 Balenciaga, and Valentino, have all claimed in
- various litigations that they have lost sales to
- 18 Steve Madden brands, correct?
- 19 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection.
- 20 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.
- 21 Foundation.
- THE WITNESS: I don't believe that I 22

24 (Pages 90 - 93)

CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER July 22, 2024 Page 94 Page 96 1 prepared to answer that question. 1 that was part of the claim or part of the --2 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 2 whatever the documentation -- whatever you want --Q. Okay. I'm just asking if you happen to 3 you know, whatever the complaint is. I'm not sure 4 be aware as to whether those luxury brands --4 what's exactly included in the complaint. 5 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 5 Balenciaga, Stella McCartney, and Valentino have 6 claimed that they have lost sales to Steve Madden O. Sure. 7 brands for handbags. Okay. I'm sorry, I'm just going to MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form. And 8 introduce the documents. I'm just doing this to 9 foundation. 9 refresh your recollection. I apologize. 10 10 THE WITNESS: Can you just repeat the A. Okay. 11 verbiage one more time so I'm --11 MR. BUTERMAN: Can we have tab 16 put 12 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 12 into the Exhibit Share? And that will be DX708. 13 (Tichner Deposition Exhibit DX708 marked Q. Sure. Yeah. And just to be clear, so 14 you know, I'm not planning on going into any of 14 for identification and attached to the 15 the details. This is just the one question that I 15 transcript.) 16 have on this topic. 16 MR. BUTERMAN: And to save time, can we Are you aware that luxury brands like 17 have tab 17 put into the Exhibit Share? That will 17 18 Stella McCartney, Balenciaga, and Valentino have 18 be DX709. 19 all claimed that they have lost sales to Steve 19 (Tichner Deposition Exhibit DX709 marked 20 Madden? 20 for identification and attached to the 21 MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form and 21 transcript.) 22 foundation. 22 MR. BUTERMAN: And let's have tab 15 put Page 95 Page 97 1 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. 1 into the Exhibit Share as DX710. 2 THE WITNESS: Are you -- just to clarify, 2 (Tichner Deposition Exhibit DX710 marked 3 is it Steve Madden handbags or Steve Madden, the 3 for identification and attached to the 4 4 company? transcript.) 5 BY MR. BUTERMAN: 5 MR. GRUNDVIG: Which tab do you want 6 Q. Steve Madden handbags. 6 first? Or which document? MR. BUTERMAN: You know what? What I A. I'm not a hundred percent if it's 7 8 specific -- all those three are specific to 8 actually would like the witness to do is to take 9 handbags --9 just a quick look at them to --O. Okav. 10 THE WITNESS: Sure. 10 11 MR. BUTERMAN: -- see if this answers the 11 A. -- but I am --12 Q. Please continue. I'm sorry. 12 less than hundred percent sure that the witness 13 A. I'm aware that there have been some 13 was about whether there were certain claims 14 documents or cases that have been brought up about 14 related to handbags. 15 those particular brands. 15 THE WITNESS: I can answer the questions Q. Are you aware of any of those brands, 16 now. 17 whether they have claimed that, with respect to 17 MR. BUTERMAN: Okay. Great. Let me just 18 handbags specifically, they have lost sales to

18 go back to the transcript to make sure I don't 19 forget it. But thank you.

20 BY MR. BUTERMAN:

Q. Ms. Tichner, are you aware as to whether

22 Balenciaga, Stella McCartney, and Valentino, which

19 Steve Madden brands?

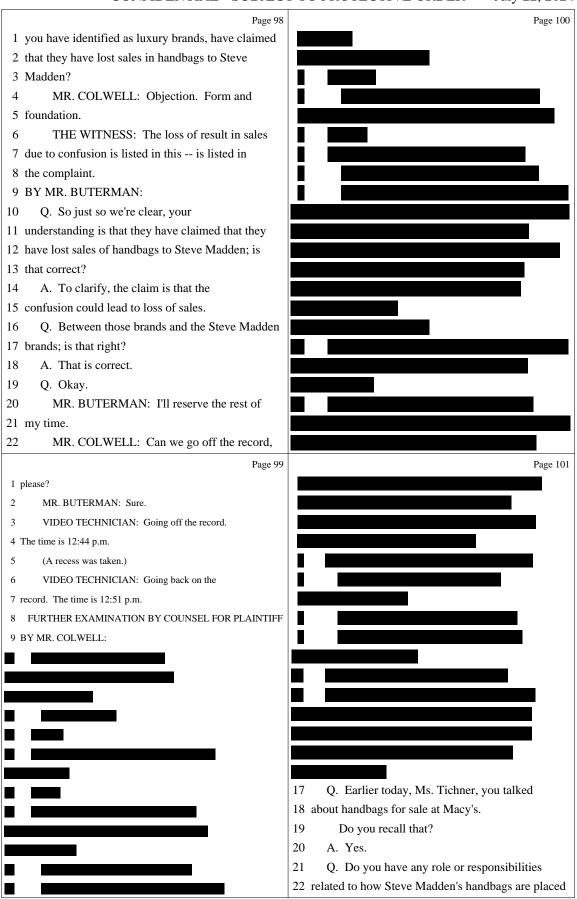
MR. COLWELL: Objection. Form.

THE WITNESS: I can't answer that

22 completely. I'm not a hundred percent sure if

20

21



26 (Pages 98 - 101)

July 22, 2024 Page 104 Page 102 1 in Macy's stores? 2 MR. BUTERMAN: Objection. Form. 2 BY MR. COLWELL: 3 THE WITNESS: Can you just qualify the Q. Do you know why that's the case that 4 word "placed," just so I'm clear on... 4 they're placed close to each other? 5 BY MR. COLWELL: MR. BUTERMAN: Objection. Calls for Q. Yes. I'm referring to the brand or 6 speculation. 7 product placement in the store. The location 7 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. 8 within the store, if that makes sense. THE WITNESS: They merchandise their A. We have some input into the particular 9 floor in different areas designated by different 10 doors of Macy's that we are in. But ultimately, 11 BY MR. COLWELL: 11 the department store makes the decision as to 12 which brands they have in each separate 12 Q. What sorts of features? 13 brick-and-mortar. 13 MR. BUTERMAN: Objection. Form. Calls 14 Q. At Macy's brick-and-mortar retail stores, 14 for speculation. 15 what handbag brands are most frequently placed THE WITNESS: Price point, end use, 16 besides Steve Madden's handbags in the store? 16 classification. 17 MR. BUTERMAN: Objection. 17 MR. COLWELL: Ms. Tichner, those are all 18 MR. GRUNDVIG: Objection. Form. 18 the questions I have for you today. But I want to 19 THE WITNESS: Just to clarify, are you thank you again for your time. 20 asking the other brands that are distributed in 20 We can go off the record. 21 the same door count that I'm in or just overall in 21 MR. BUTERMAN: Actually, you have to at 22 Macy's? 22 least allow me to say that I have no further Page 103 Page 105 1 BY MR. COLWELL: 1 questions, which is the case --Q. I'm actually asking about the products' 2 MR. COLWELL: I was going to ask you off 3 placement within the store next to other brands. 3 the record that --A. Can you just please rephrase? MR. BUTERMAN: That's okay. 5 Q. Sure. 5 I don't have any further questions, so 6 A. Yeah. 6 we're done. Ms. Tichner, thank you very much for Q. In Macy's, do Steve Madden's handbags 7 your time. 8 appear beside handbags from other brands within 8 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 9 the store? VIDEO TECHNICIAN: We are off the record 10 A. Yes. 10 at 1:01 p.m. This concludes today's testimony Q. In Macy's still, are Steve Madden's 11 given by Sloan Tichner. The total number of media 11 12 handbags placed close to any other brands in 12 units used is seven and will be retained by 13 particular, to your knowledge? 13 Veritext. 14 MR. BUTERMAN: Object to form. 14 (Whereupon at 1:01 p.m., the confidential THE WITNESS: Yes. videotaped deposition of ANISH MEWANI was 15 15 16 BY MR. COLWELL: 16 concluded.) 17 18 19 20 21

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1 CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC	
2 I, CHRISTINA S. HOTSKO, the officer befor	
3 whom the foregoing deposition was taken, do hereby	
4 certify that the witness whose testimony appears in	
5 the foregoing deposition was duly sworn by me; that	
6 the testimony of said witness was taken by me in	
7 stenotypy and thereafter reduced to typewriting under	
8 my direction; that said statement is a true record of	
9 the proceedings; that I am neither counsel for,	
10 related to, nor employed by any of the parties to the	
11 action in which this statement was taken; and,	
12 further, that I am not a relative or employee of any	
13 counsel or attorney employed by the parties hereto,	
14 nor financially or otherwise interested in the	
15 outcome of this action.	
16	
17 WAND	
18 CHRISTINA S. HOTSKO	
19 Notary Public in and for the	
20 District of Columbia	
21 My commission expires:	
22 1 January 2027	

28 (Page 106)

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 30

- (e) Review By the Witness; Changes.
- (1) Review; Statement of Changes. On request by the deponent or a party before the deposition is completed, the deponent must be allowed 30 days after being notified by the officer that the transcript or recording is available in which:
- (A) to review the transcript or recording; and
- (B) if there are changes in form or substance, to sign a statement listing the changes and the reasons for making them.
- (2) Changes Indicated in the Officer's Certificate. The officer must note in the certificate prescribed by Rule 30(f)(1) whether a review was requested and, if so, must attach any changes the deponent makes during the 30-day period.

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